

## REMARKS

These comments are responsive to the final Official Action mailed on December 7, 2004. The Office Action rejected claims 63-97 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph. More specifically, the Office Action states that, with respect to independent claims 63, 82, 85, 87, 89, 91 and 96, the specification lacks support for "a memory array comprising a plurality of ... address cells". This rejection is respectfully submitted to be in error. Additionally, new claims 98-103 have been added. Consequently, a Request for Continued Examination is being filed concurrently with the present Amendment.

### New Claims

Claims 98-103 are being added. These claims are similar to, and correspond to, the previously presented independent claims. The Office Action rejections the previously pending claims based, as far as can be determined, on the "address cells" language. Claims 98-113 do not use this language, instead referring to groups of first and second cells, where the first group stores data and second group stores addresses. In a particular embodiment, the "first cells" can be taken as "data portion 403", as shown in Figure 5, and the "second cells" as area 409. These are described between page 16, line 23, and page 17, line 8. As noted on page 17, lines 6-8, area 409 stores addresses. Consequently, claims 98-103 do not use the language on which it appears the Office Action rejects the other independent claims and should be allowable.

### Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph

The Office Action has again rejected claims 63-97 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph. This rejection is believed to be in error, as previously discussed. As far as can be determined, the rejection is based on the lack of support for "address cells". Figure 5, as described beginning at line 23 of Figure 5, shows a group of cells, DEFECT MAP 409 of sector 401. As there are a number of such sectors (see, e.g. Figure 2 or Figure 3A), there are a plurality of such groups of cells. As these cells store addresses ("addresses ... are stored ... in the defect map 409", p.17, lns. 6-8), there are a plurality of groups of cells for storing addresses. Thus, the present application provides support for "a memory array comprising a plurality of groups of ... address cell storing

addresses”. Consequently, it is respectfully submitted that the present application provides support for “a memory array comprising a plurality of groups of ... address cells, said cells in each of said groups of ... address cells ... storing ... addresses” and that the rejection of claim 63 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, is not well founded and should be withdrawn.

Figure 5, as described beginning at line 23 of page 16, shows a group of cells, DEFECT MAP 409 of sector 401. As there are a number of such sectors (see, e.g. Figure 2 or Figure 3A), there are a plurality of such groups of cells. As these cells store addresses (“addresses ... are stored ... in the defect map 409”, p.17, lns. 6-8), there are a plurality of groups of cells for storing addresses. Thus, the present application provides support for “a memory array comprising a plurality of groups of ... address cell storing addresses”. Consequently, it is respectfully submitted that the present application provides support for “a memory array comprising a plurality of groups of ... address cells, said cells in each of said groups of ... address cells ... storing ... addresses” and that the rejection of claim 63 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, is not well founded and should be withdrawn.

The Office Action also seems to reject the cited support as it states that the addresses “are stored as defect points”. This is just describing what the address does and it is unclear why undermines the statement that the cells in question store addresses. Consequently, it seems that the Office Action is improperly requiring support for additional limitations not found in the claims. In any case, the specification describes the cells as storing addresses and, consequently, claim 63 and the other independent claims are fully supported and the rejection is both improper and incorrect.

Conclusion

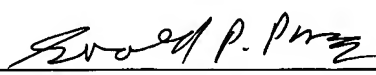
Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the Office Action's rejection of claims 63-97 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, is not well founded and should be withdrawn. Reconsideration of claims 63-97, and consideration new claims 98-103, and a prompt indication of their allowability are respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions, a call to the undersigned is respectfully requested.

**EXPRESS MAIL LABEL**

**NO:**

**EV 321705128 US**

Respectfully submitted,

  
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3/1/05  
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